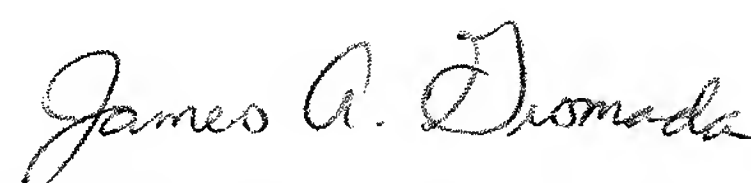


II. Remarks

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. Claims 10-12 have been withdrawn from further consideration. Claim 1 is independent.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3633. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
James A. Gromada
Registration No. 44,727

PATENT ADMINISTRATOR
KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN, L.L.P.
1025 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W.
East Lobby, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20007-5201
Facsimile: (202) 298-7570